

WO 01/27411

PCT/GB00/03820

20

Claims

1. Safety apparatus for the erection of structures, comprising
a first substantially vertical support;
a second substantially vertical support; and
a supporting cable extending between said first and second
supports, wherein
said vertical supports are configured to be adjustable in length and
each includes a first fixing means and a second fixing means such that the
length of a support may be adjusted by releasing said first fixing means and
then re-fixing said first fixing means after said adjustment has been made.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said substantial
vertical supports are made of a highly tensile material.
3. Apparatus according to claims 1 and 2, wherein said
substantial vertical supports comprise an upper and a lower tube.
4. Apparatus according to claims 1 to 3, wherein said upper
tubes of substantially vertical supports are equipped with an internal and an
external strengthening component.
5. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said external
strengthening component is a steel cable, the tension of which is
adjustable.
6. Apparatus according to claims 1 to 4, wherein the diameter of

WO 01/27411

PCT/GB00/03820

21

said lower tube is different from the diameter of said upper tube so that said upper and lower tubes can slide vertically independently of one another.

7. Apparatus according to claim 1 wherein first and second fixing means are of the type described in Figure 5.

8. Safety apparatus for the erection of structures, comprising
a first substantially vertical support;
a second substantially vertical support; and
multiple supporting cables extending between said first and second supports, wherein

said vertical supports are configured to be adjustable in length and each includes a first fixing means and a second fixing means such that the length of a support may be adjusted by releasing said first fixing means and then re-fixing said first fixing means after said adjustment has been made.

9. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 8 wherein said supporting cable is made of a highly tensile material.

10. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 9 wherein the tension of said supporting cable is adjustable by cable-clamping devices implemented on said substantially vertical supports.

11. Method of erecting safety apparatus during the assembly of a structure, comprising the steps of
attaching the first substantially vertical support to said structure;
attaching the second substantially vertical support to said structure;

WO 01/27411

PCT/GB00/03820

22

extending a cable between said first and second supports and
attaching a safety harness to said cable, wherein

said vertical supports are configured to be adjustable in length and
each includes a first fixing means and a second fixing means such that the
length of a support may be adjusted by releasing said first fixing means and
then re-fixing said fixing means after said adjustment.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said substantial
vertical supports are made of a highly tensile material.

13. A method according to claims 11 and 12, wherein said
substantial vertical supports comprise an upper and a lower tube.

14. A method according to claims 11 to 13, wherein said upper
tubes of substantially vertical supports are equipped with an internal and an
external strengthening component.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein said external
strengthening component is a steel cable, the tension of which is
adjustable.

16. A method according to claims 11 to 14, wherein the diameter
of said lower tube is different from the diameter of said upper tube so that
said upper and lower tubes can slide vertically independently of one
another.

17. A method according to claim 11 wherein fixing means are of

09857867.091001

WO 01/27411

PCT/GB00/03820

23

the type described in *Figure 5*.

18. Method of erecting safety apparatus during the assembly of a structure, comprising the steps of

5 attaching the first substantially vertical support to said structure;
attaching the second, substantially vertical support to said structure;
extending multiple cables between said first and second supports
and

10 attaching a safety harness to said cables, wherein
said vertical supports are configured to be adjustable in length and
each includes a first fixing means and a second fixing means such that the
length of a support may be adjusted by releasing said first fixing means and
then re-fixing said fixing means after said adjustment.

15 19. A method according to claim 11 or 18 wherein said supporting
cable is made of a highly tensile material.

20 20. A method according to claim 11 or 19 wherein the tension of
said supporting cable is adjustable by cable-clamping devices implemented
on said substantially vertical supports.

add
all

add
B1

09857867.091001